Nippon Times

No. 16,216 (THE 19th YEAR of SHOWA) TOKYO TUESDAY, MAY 16, 1944 第三種郵便物認可 昭和十五年十二月二十七日 Price 20 Sen

OUR UNITS ADVANCE TO POINT FIVE KMS. OF BISHENPUR BASE

Foe Desperately Resisting in Effort to Defend Position South of Imphal

By M. HASHIMOTO
Of the Military Press Corps

BURMA FRONT BASE, May 14.—Our crack units advancing northward are now pressing hard against a point five kilometers from Bishenpur after launching a furious attack with reinforcements.

With tanks, airplanes and heavy machine-guns, the enemy troops had been desperately resisting from the Imphal-Bishenpur Highway and the Bishenpur-Silchar Road in an effort to defend Bishenpur, the most important enemy defense position south of Imphal.

Attacks Resumed

Domei

LISBON, May 14.—The Headquarters of the anti-Axis forces in Southeastern Asia, in a communique issued today, announced that the Japanese Forces have resumed their attacks against the important hill positions of the anti-Axis forces southeast of Palel, according to information from Kandy.

Japanese Advancing

By K. MURAKAWA
Of the Military Press Corps

INDO-BURMESE BORDER FRONT, May 14.—The annihilative operations against the enemy's 81st Division and the 6th Brigade of the West African Army on the banks of the Mayu River have suddenly become animated since May 10.

Having smashed the enemy troops at every point, powerful Japanese Units commenced a drive from a point near Taungyaung, five kilometers north of Doublegyaung, and completely occupied Chinra, the enemy position southeast of Taungyaung at 11 p.m. on May 10 and are now continuing their advance eastward.

Meanwhile, Japanese Units also occupied Kingyangya, about three kilometers north of Kindan, after chasing the routed enemy forces. This unit in cooperation with another unit which had advanced to a point near Pingiyan, about 10 kilometers northeast of Kindan, and Pinra, about six kilometers northeast of Pingiyan, are now making relentless drives toward XX.

As a result, the enemy troops have been thrown into utter confusion and routed ever since the aerial supply was suspended since May 10.

Various Japanese Units which had encircled and isolated the enemy also succeeded in cutting off the foe's retreat at three places and are now vigorously advancing in the jungle area on the Mawdok mountain range.

Japanese Increase Pressure

By S. NAKAJIMA AND K. HASHIMOTO
Of the Military Press Corps

INDO-BURMESE FRONT, May 14.—A further tremendous increase has been made in the might of the combined Japanese and Indian Forces which are assaulting an enemy force of nearly 10,000 men around Bishenpur, 30 kilometers southwest of Imphal, a point of vital importance to the enemy's Fourth Army Corps, as the result of their reinforcement by fresh and crack units.

The combined Japanese and Indian Forces continue inflicting crushing defeats upon the enemy who in his reliance upon the permanent positions deep lengthwise which he has built over the entire area in the neighborhood of Bishenpur, making full use of the lay of the land in their construction, is making a desperate effort to defend himself by the employment of tanks, armored cars, heavy guns, and planes.

By day and by night the Japanese and Indian Forces are advancing to Bishenpur, which is their immediate objective, from all directions, reducing and taking possession of one enemy position after another as they forge ahead.

The days of the enemy at Bishenpur are shortened by each of the artillery and daring night attacks which are made upon the enemy positions by the combined Japanese and Indian armies.

Before the front of the Japanese Units which are advancing at an extraordinary speed along the main road leading to Bishenpur from the area of Moiran, an enemy force of nearly 400 men, equipped with nine tanks and 12 trench mortars, made its appearance about 8 a.m. on May 10. It had come from the vicinity of Kohima, north of Botsam, which is five kilometers south of Bishenpur, under the protection of fire from the heavy artillery position in the neighborhood of Halenguba, two kilometers north of Bishenpur.

From the morning of May 11 the Japanese heroes were face to face with the enemy, with an exceedingly short distance intervening between them and their foes.

Toward the evening of the same day the Japanese set afire to two enemy N-2 tanks coming from the direction of the main road by the employment of anti-tank guns. They also put out of function a number of enemy tanks which came from a point northeast of Kohima in a heroic attack delivered by them after they had got sufficiently close to the enemy.

Lt.-Col. Prince Ken Ri Now a Faculty Member Of Army Staff College

His Highness Lieutenant-Colonel Prince Ken Ri has been promoted a member of the faculty of the Military Staff College, the War Ministry announced on Monday. The appointment of Lieutenant-General Giichi Itabana as Principal of the Army Aeronautic Communications School, Major-General Ryo Murakami as the Chief of the Military Recruitment Department of the Tokyo Division, and Major-General Usuke Hirai as the Commander of the Tokyo Regimental District Headquarters in succession to Major-General Murakami were also announced by the War Ministry on Monday.

REICH NAVY BLASTS HOSTILE WARSHIPS

Direct Hits Scored on British Destroyers, Torpedo-Boats in Night Clash Off Holland

Special

BERLIN, May 14.—Naval encounters between German and British naval forces occurred in the channel off the Netherlands coast last night till today. About midnight, German torpedo-boats pushed toward the British coast where they opened fire on British destroyers and several direct hits were observed while the British answered without effect.

At about the same time off Hoek Van Holland, a group of British torpedo-boats were attacked by German naval forces and one of the enemy boats was set on fire while several others were severely damaged.

Early this morning, British torpedo-boats off Dieppe attacked German patrol boats with torpedoes, but were unsuccessful.

Meanwhile, 20 enemy Beaufighters with numerous torpedoes attacked a German convoy off Ameland in west Friesland Island at noon today and three enemy aircraft were shot down while one German vessel received a hit.

Simultaneously, heavy German bomber formations carried out a large-scale raid on the port of Naples this morning as they bombed enemy ships in the harbor and wharves. The enemy tried to draw a smoke screen, but many flares dropped by the German planes lit up the surroundings. Two large fires accompanied by explosions broke out in the first five minutes of the attack, one explosion lighting up the town of Naples. The attack lasted about 20 minutes and was most effective, according to the German pilots which took part. The Germans lost only two planes.

On the Eastern Front, German air formations carried out last night heavy attack on the railway station at Fastov in Furaina. At midnight, the Luftwaffe attacked the railway yard with its large volume of rolling stock and four minutes later tremendous explosion and fires were started all over the yard. The Soviets kept up lively anti-aircraft fire, but could not prevent the German planes from carrying out their purpose. The attack lasted about 30 minutes and 40 large fires were observed.

Enemy Meeting at Sian

Special to the Nippon Times

LISBON, May 14.—Representatives of the Chungking Government and the Chinese Communist Party are now meeting at Sian in Shensi Province, the Chungking Minister of Information announced, adding that a recent session of the Kuomintang's executive committee Chungking Kuomintang's executive committee disclosed that it is eager to settle all disputes with the Communists by political means.

REICH ASSAULT UNIT PIERCES FOE'S LINES IN MINTURNO SECTOR

Enemy in Tyrrhenian Coastal Area Inactive After Two Days of Vain Attacks

Special

BERLIN, May 14.—The battle between the Tyrrhenian Sea and Cassino has become extremely fierce, writes Karl Praegner, special Interinf correspondent, reporting on the battles in Italy.

About 10 divisions of the 5th American and 8th British army were thrown into the battle by General Harold Alexander, Deputy Commander-in-Chief of the Anti-Axis Forces in Europe, and are now vainly attempting to advance toward the German positions, the correspondent said.

However, he added, German troops are forcing the bulk of the British and Americans into warfare of the greatest possible attrition on every square foot of ground.

Opposition offered to the invaders has intensified as demonstrated in the Tyrrhenian coastal districts from Minturno half way up to Castelforte, where the Americans, after two days of vain attacks, remained passive on the third day. The German assault commando, however, broke into the American lines west of Minturno, and returned with many prisoners.

Meanwhile, in the Castelforte area, several invader assault columns tried to outflank Monte Maio in the west, and to prevent German troops from advancing into the high regions of the coastal mountains. During the course of the German barrage at Monte Maio, where heavy struggles developed, German troops in powerful counter-thrusts repelled the Anglo-Americans in the western valleys.

Further east at San Andrea, six frontal attacks made by the invaders collapsed, and heavy losses were inflicted upon the Anglo-American assault formations at Monte Maio. After the fighting had calmed down when night fell, the German formations, according to orders, moved into the neighboring mountain positions toward the west.

In the meantime, in the northern sector of the battle area between the coastal mountains and Cassino, formations of the 8th British army, supported by tanks, tried to break through from Rapido to Pignata, but German anti-tank batteries were so successful that the enemy spearheads were detached south of San Angelo and south of Cassino. Some local dents west of San Angelo were straightened out in counter-thrusts. Local thrusts, made by auxiliary troops at Monte Abate and east of Terella, failed, but struggles are still in progress at all focal points with unabated vigor and fierceness.

Meanwhile, the launching of the new anti-Axis offensive in Italy was registered with complete calm by the German press, which once more stresses that the Reich is prepared to meet the enemy's attacks no matter where these might be launched.

It emphasized that the anti-Axis offensive in Italy might be a diversionary maneuver, intended to deflect Germany's attention from other more important fronts.

Italian press commentaries, concerning the launching of the new anti-Axis offensive at Cassino and Gaeta, are marked by extremely confident tones, it is reported from Rome.

The papers stress that the offensive did not come as a surprise, and the German troops were ready to cope with any situation that might arise on the Italian front.

Commenting on the strategic objectives pursued by the enemy with this new offensive, the papers point out that the enemy is endeavoring to break through the German defense system south of the Nettuno bridgehead in order to bring about a junction of his southern armies with his forces in the Nettuno bridgehead area.

Latest reports from the front, meanwhile, register intensification of artillery activity on both sides in the Nettuno bridgehead sector.

Clark Meets Roosevelt

Domei

AMSTERDAM, May 14.—Lieutenant-General Mark Wayne Clark, Commander of the U.S. Fifth Army in Southern Italy, recently returned secretly to the United States, according to the British news service. It is reported that Clark conferred with President Franklin Roosevelt when the President was recuperating at Bernard Baruch's farm at Georgetown, South Carolina, and also with General George C. Marshall, Chief of Staff, and other high officials.

Pays Tribute to War Dead

Dr. Ba Han, center, head of the Burmese Special Investigation Mission to Japan and other countries of East Asia, after he worshipped at the Yasukuni Shrine on Monday morning.

BRITISH FOOD LESS THAN IN U.S., CANADA

Huge Drop Seen in Supplies Due To Shipping Bottleneck, Daily Telegraph Says

Special to the Nippon Times

LISBON, May 12.—The grave food shortage being experienced by Britain, particularly during the first half of 1941, is clearly revealed in a recent issue of the Daily Telegraph which declares that during that critical period general health and working efficiency showed definite signs of breaking down.

The article runs as follows:

The amount of food available to the average British citizen is considerably less than that received by a person in the United States and Canada, it was revealed in a statistical comparison for 1943 made by a Combined Food Board composed of representatives of Britain, United States and Canada, which was formed in 1942 to plan and expedite the utilization of food resources of the anti-Axis nations.

The period of greatest food shortage for Britain was the first half of 1941 when civilian suppplies were at the "dangerously low" level of only 2,680 calories, 33 grammes of animal protein and 105 grammes of fat per day. General health and working efficiency showed definite signs of breaking down. A slight improvement resulted from the beginning of lend-lease shipments in the second half of 1941. In Canada, 1943 food levels were much the same as those in the United States.

In Britain, despite increases in food production, the reduction of imports lowered food supplies sharply below the prewar level. By the end of 1940 supplies of meat, fats and sugar had fallen sharply as compared with prewar period. During the first half of 1941, although bread and potatoes were unrationed, food stocks fell to their lowest wartime level. Supplies of meat, poultry, eggs, butter, sugar and fruit are now considerably lower in Britain than in the other two countries and on the whole, the British people's diet is less attractive, less convenient to prepare than that of the United States and Canada, the report states.

Supplies of fats, carbohydrates and proteins are greater in the United States and Canada than in Britain. During the war the fat content of the British diet has fallen sharply. When proteins, fats and carbohydrates are calculated in terms of calories, a slight fall is shown in Britain and a slight rise in America and Canada. Britain's supplies per person were roughly 10 per cent lower in 1943 than those of the other two countries.

In Britain, supplies per person of dairy products, meats and sugar are about three-fourths of that of America; poultry and fish about two-thirds; eggs and fruit (other than citrus) one-half and citrus fruits and tomatoes about one-fourth.

Supplies of various categories of food available during 1943, in pounds for each person, are as follows:

	G. Britain	U.S.	Canada
Milk and milk products	49	64	64
Meat	107	141	134
Poultry and fish	19	28	26
Eggs	23	41	38
Fats, including butter	38	45	44
Sugar and syrup	65	84	79
Tomatoes and citrus fruits	23	103	62
Other fruits	52	104	72
Grain products	247	201	215
Vegetables, Green and Yellow	133	93	43
Other vegetables	64	65	33

A shipping bottleneck was largely responsible for Britain's supplies being short.

HUNGARIAN PAPERS SPURN ULTIMATUM

Nation Fighting to Thrust Back Bolshevism From Borders, All Journals Declare

Special

LISBON, May 14.—All the Hungarian papers unanimously rejected the anti-Axis ultimatum addressed to Hungary, Rumania, Bulgaria and Finland, it is reported from Budapest today.

The journals emphasized that Hungary was not fighting for imperialistic aims, but to keep away from its frontiers the greatest danger of the 20th century—Bolshevism.

The political way of thinking in Britain and America can not understand this strong attitude, because both countries want to direct the destiny of Europe from an easy chair, declared the Uj Magyarsag.

In regard to Anglo American concessions on Soviet claims in Europe, the paper remarked that Soviet domination of Europe was tantamount to annihilation of European civilization and Christianity.

According to a dispatch from Ankara, the Tasviri Efkjar, discussing the anti-Axis ultimatum sent to Germany's allies, declared that the second front appeared to have been established only in the political sphere against the smaller Axis partners. It added that this step was an attempt to undermine the Axis moral strength from within before the adventure of the invasion was started. However, it said, the move had served as one advantage to the anti-Axis—it postponed the beginning of the second front attempt, yet a while longer.

The Cumhuriyet, Turkey's largest newspaper, stated in this connection that it was scarcely to be expected that the anti-Axis ultimatum would meet with any success.

Tani in Capital

Japanese Ambassador to China, Masayuki Tani, arrived at Haneda airport Monday afternoon from Nanking. Ambassador Tani will stay in Tokyo for some time during which he will confer with central Government authorities.

U.S., BRITAIN UPSET BY NIPPON SUCCESS IN HONAN CAMPAIGN

New York Times and British Critic Admit Chungking in Serious Plight

Special

LISBON, May 14.—Grave concern felt in the United States over the Chungking setbacks in the current Japanese offensive in Honan Province was reflected in the New York Times editorial "China in Distress," which said that the Chungking regime was "already sending out appeals for increased aid and that there was no question of its urgency," according to a New York dispatch.

The paper lamented, however, "but for the present, means for sending such aid is limited and until these means can be improved, Chungking must in the main still depend upon itself."

The editorial suggested that the "greatest aid" which Chungking can furnish to itself would be "to bury the differences with the Chinese Communists at least until the war is over in order to turn all available forces against Japan."

Anxiety in England over the Honan developments was also revealed in today's article contributed by Paul Renker, military commentator, who repeated the charge that the Chungking regime was maintaining its armies for blockading the Chinese Communists.

Admitting the seriousness of the closure of the Burma Road, Renker said that the "clearance of the Burma Road might be realized if Chungking's western force aided Lieutenant-General Joseph Stilwell's forces instead of keeping something like 500,000 men as an unprofitable police force."

Meanwhile, the Sao Tang Pao, organ of the Chungking army, indicating Chungking alarm over the Honan situation, warned that the Honan operations now constituted an important part of the entire anti-Axis East Asiatic operations, adding "defeats in Honan mean defeats everywhere in East Asia."

Chiang Is Condemned

Special

LISBON, May 11.—Blaming the internal corruption of the Chiang regime for the "surprisingly little Chungking opposition" against the latest Japanese drive in Honan, the Los Angeles Times flatly declared: "The Americans are no longer willing to assume the lion's share of the responsibility as they once were."

In a frank and penetrating condemnation of the Chungking regime, the journal emphatically asserted: "Especially since some of our troops arrived in China have we become aware that Chungking's difficulties arise from economic and political factors which fall within its own control. The runaway inflation and the corruption of the Chungking military officials, which severely hampered the war effort, are certainly matters which Chiang's government might have handled with more firmness than has been displayed."

Admitting that under ordinary circumstances the United States would not be entitled to pry into Chungking's domestic affairs, the journal continued: "Our own interests demand that we assure ourselves that Chungking is a democratic state fighting a democratic war, and that we won't have to protect ourselves after the war against a 'fascist and aggressive Chungking.' "

Adding that if the present state of affairs is a threat not only to the future, but also to the success of the current military operations against Japan, the importance of Wallace's mission to Chungking becomes clear, the Los Angeles Times declared: "Just at the moment when we are taking a big step in the West, doubled precaution against trouble in the East is in order."

Meanwhile, the magazine, Time, declared today that Chungking and her allies could "do little" to check the Japanese drive, because "the Japanese thrust into China has already cut down to a thin trickle all supplies to the United States 14th Air Force in China. The acute shortage of trucks, fuel, and ammunition makes it practically impossible to set up air bases close to the new front or to supply the front-line troops adequately."

Kuo Back in Shanghai

Domei

SHANGHAI, May 14.—Kuo Hsiu-feng, president of the Central Press Service, and his suite returned here this afternoon by air following the completion of a 10-day sojourn in Japan.

Fall of Loyang Held Imminent in Dispatch By Reuter Reporter

By Arrangement With the Asahi

ZURICH, May 13.—Japanese Army Units on the Honan front are swiftly advancing toward Loyang from four different directions and the fall of the city is now said to be a matter of time, according to a Reuter dispatch from Chungking. A vanguard of the Japanese Forces has already reached a line eight kilometers from Loyang, and all other units are also reported to be advancing vigorously in defiance of the Chungking forces' resistance, the report said.

OUR BOMBERS HIT FOE AT HOLLANDIA

Rabaul Defenders Shoot Down 20 Planes; Enemy Airfields In China Blasted

Special to the Nippon Times

SOUTHWEST PACIFIC BASE, May 15.—Japanese Bomber Plane Units attacked the anti-Axis position at Hollandia, New Guinea Island, at daybreak on May 12.

In face of fierce anti-aircraft gunfire, the Japanese blasted their objectives and returned safely to their bases.

20 Enemy Planes Hit

Special to the Nippon Times

RABAUL, May 15.—Japanese Units here shot down seven planes and damaged five others last Friday, when a formation of 176 enemy aircraft, consisting of bombers and fighters, tried to attack our positions.

All the rest of the raiders were repulsed. Damage on the Japanese side was negligible.

On the following day, another formation of about 90 enemy bombers and fighters came to attack our positions. Promptly intercepting them, Japanese Forces shot down four enemy planes and damaged four others. All the other invaders were beaten off.

No damage was reported on our side.

One Plane Downed

Special to the Nippon Times

HONGKONG, May 15.—Japanese warships in the South China sea area, shot down an enemy plane on the afternoon of May 12, when two B-25 bombers appeared in the Hongkong area.

No damage was reported on the Japanese side.

Shihshow Raiders Repelled

Special to the Nippon Times

SHANGHAI, May 15.—Four enemy P-51 fighters attempted to raid Shihshow, along the Yangtze River, on the afternoon of May 11.

Contacting the invaders, Japanese Units on the spot shot down one enemy plane and repulsed all the others.

The Japanese suffered no damage.

Enemy Airfields Blasted

Domei

CHINA BASE, May 14.—Japanese Army bombers this morning attacked the enemy airfields at Yushan, Kiangsi Province, and Kienow, Fukien Province.

Defying severe anti-aircraft gunfire, the Japanese blasted the runways and other military establishments, and inflicted heavy losses on the enemy.

All the Japanese planes returned safely to their base.

Meanwhile, a formation of enemy planes of the U.S. air force in China, consisting of seven P-51's and P-40's and two B-25's, attempted to attack a point about 20 kilometers north of Yochow, Hupeh Province, at 9:20 a.m. today.

A Hayabusa Fighter Plane Unit of the Japanese Forces immediately contacted the enemy planes and shot down two P-40's and damaged two B-25's.

The rest of the invaders were routed. All the Japanese planes returned to their base safely.

Bans Black List Publication

Special to the Nippon Times

LISBON, May 14.—Argentina has banned further publication of British and American black lists, according to the Daily Herald correspondent in Washington. He declared that this will help the firms trading with the Axis and pro-Axis countries and is regarded in Washington as a significant setback to the anti-Axis. The action was taken after persistent pressure on the Government by the suspecting firms and the black lists included the names of 1,100 persons as well as about 1,000 companies doing business in Argentina.

JAPANESE AIR UNITS SMASH 45 AIRCRAFT IN SUICHWAN ATTACK

Imperial Headquarters Reveals Raid on Advance U.S. Air Base in China

Japanese Air Units in the China area, in a large formation of bombers and fighters, attacked the enemy airfield at Suichwan in Kiangsi Province, the advance base of the U.S. air force in China, in three waves on May 12, and smashed the main enemy force there, it was revealed by the Imperial Headquarters in its communique issued at 2:40 p.m. Monday.

The communique disclosed that the Japanese shot down seven fighter planes (three unconfirmed), and set ablaze or damaged more than 12 large-sized planes and 26 small-sized machines.

In this attack, Japanese losses were five planes either self-blasted or not yet returned.

The communique follows:

IMPERIAL HEADQUARTERS' COMMUNIQUE
2:40 p.m. May 15

"Our Air Units in the China area, in a combined formation of fighters and bombers, attacked the airfield at Suichwan, the advance base of the U.S. air force in China, in three waves on May 12, and wiped out the main enemy force there.

"The war results follow:

Shot down—7 fighter planes (of which three unconfirmed)
Set ablaze or damaged—More than 12 large-sized planes and 26 small-sized aircraft
Total—More than 45 planes

"Losses on our side were five planes self-blasted or not yet returned."

Yanks Develop Suichwan

The American air force in China brought the Chungking air force under its control in September last year. Then came the creation of a general headquarters for the American air force in China at Chungking and the establishment of branch bases in four districts, the Szechwan-Yunnan, Kweichow-Kwangsi, Chekiang-Kiangsi, and Fukien-Kwangtung.

Special importance was attached by the American air force in China to Suichwan as a pivotal base. The value of Suichwan as an air base is due to two reasons. In the first place Suichwan is midway between the Wuhan and the Kwangtung districts and its geographical position gives it great advantage as a base for attack against Japanese Air Units in Central and South China.

In the second place, Suichwan is situated on the proposed American route in attacking Japan from the air, a line which connects the advance bases of Kunming, Kweilin, Hengyang, Kienow, Yushan, and Lishui.

Is Mother-Base

The position of Suichwan in relation to these advance bases is much like an aircraft carrier in relation to the planes it carries.

The American air force in China which realized the importance of Suichwan has recently made a marked advance in developing the base.

Next to Kunming, Suichwan is being transformed into a city where the Stars and Stripes are most in evidence in China.

Japanese Air Units in China have frequently attacked Suichwan with the idea of smashing the plans of the U.S. air force in China.

The death of the Hero-God of the Air Lieutenant-Colonel Nakakazu Ozaki in one of the fights with the enemy air force over Suichwan on December 27 last year, is still fresh in our memory.

Attacked Three Times

Domei

CENTRAL CHINA BASE, May 14.—In a mass formation of fighters and bombers, crack Japanese Air Units in China, on May 12, furiously bombed three times an enemy airfield at Suichwan in Kiangsi Province, the advance base of the U.S. air force in China and blasted more than 45 aircraft, thus wiping out the main enemy air strength there.

In the first attack under moonlight, Japanese Wild Eagles [illegible] over Suichwan airfield in defiance of the fierce enemy anti-aircraft gunfire and violently bombed and destroyed the runway and military establishments. In addition they set ablaze three B-25

(Continued on Page 2 Col. 4)

Press Comments

Monday, May 15

BRITAIN'S NEW AMBITION

YOMIURI-HOCHI—It is of extremely deep meaning that the British Empire has released Mahatma Gandhi, the aged Indian national movement leader, at the very time when the Indian National Army, joining hands with the Imperial Forces, has advanced into Indian territory, causing an uproar in Bengal, the economic pivot of the "treasure house" of India. The reason for the aged leader's release is, of course, sought in "reasons of health." But last year when Gandhi's life was in acute danger, in spite of the ardent demand of the Indian people for Gandhi's release the British Empire at that time gave no heed. And especially last February, when Mrs. Gandhi was critically ill, the British authorities in India showed an extremely cold attitude and eventually let her die in prison. And again about the release of Gandhi himself, urgent recommendations to release him were repeatedly given by British Labor Party circles. In particular at the time of the Teheran Conference at the end of last year, members of the Indian Liberation Committee demanded the release of Gandhi and all the other leaders of the National Congress, and the attitude of the British Government vis-a-vis this issue was made the test stone of the British Government's sincerity with regard to democracy. Then, not only Churchill but also Roosevelt and Stalin who both participated in the Teheran Conference were charged with common responsibility.

In spite of those demands for release coming from people at home and abroad, the British Empire remained cold as ice and stubbornly refused to lend an ear to those voices. This same British Empire now all of a sudden has carried out Gandhi's "unconditional" release. The reason must chiefly be sought for in the realm of politics.

What is the political reason for the release of the aged Gandhi? It is that the British Empire considers the present moment the most favorable opportunity to make a compromise with the Indian people and to force upon them the pending Cripps Plan. Of course it is an undisguisable and objective reality that Britain's position in India is in acute danger of being shaken by such reasons as, internally, the unprecedentedly big famine, the intensification of anti-British riots and the organized strikes of Indian labor; and, externally, the establishment of the Provisional Government of Free India, the organization of the Indian National Army and the joint drive against Imphal by the Indian National Army and the Imperial Army. In spite of this, nay, for this very reason, making a sort of forecast of all the internal and external dangerous developments concerning India, the British Empire, grasping the chance, so to speak, of a moment of lull in this tempest, is hurriedly trying to reach a compromise with the Indian people via the aged leader.

In connection with the release of Gandhi, it should be taken into full consideration that Britain, while feeling a certain relief at having grasped the opportunity of this moment, is at the same time on guard against still greater development of Bose's influence in the future and against the effects of left-wing influence upon the domestic labor class. In other words, the British Empire is extremely afraid of becoming sandwiched in from both left and right in the future, and in the sense of making a forestalling move has looked upon the present as the most favorable opportunity to release Gandhi. Phenomena which are sufficient to make Britain entertain such fears are perceptible in many directions. One instance may be the demand made by the Indian representative at the anti-Axis International Labor Conference in Philadelphia for "the abolition of discrimination against colored labor."

While felicitating the Mahatma on his release from the bottom of our hearts, we shall carry on our Imphal operations with even greater vigor. On the other hand we cannot but feel the urgent need to take political measures at the same time in order to forestall any ambitions on the part of the British Empire to utilize Gandhi.

WILL TO FIGHT IT THROUGH

TOKYO SHIMBUN—Whether or not we shall gain ultimate victory in the war depends on the will of the nation to fight it through and on the vigor of the nation to win at any cost by overcoming all difficulties. At the Central Convention of the National Grand Rally Movement for prosecution of the war, Prime Minister General Hideki Tojo made a statement in brief and clear-cut terms as to the secret of winning the war. What the Prime Minister said was nothing new; it was something true of any war that has been fought in the past or of any war that will be fought in the future. If we have a firm will to fight out the war, we can overcome all difficulties and hardships.

Too numerous to mention are the instances wherein officers and men of the Imperial Forces, burning with a furious fighting will, have emerged safe from the dangers that had threatened them and have succeeded in turning the situation in their favor. If we have the unshakable will to fight out the war, it is only natural that we should concentrate all our physical and mental powers on the single point of successfully prosecuting the war. Thus, to thoroughly realize what wartime living is and to willingly live a life of hardship under the existing situation will be a matter of course for the nation.

"Those who win in war must first win in their own mind; those who are beaten in war are first beaten in their own mind." This saying is but another expression, from another angle, of the foregoing statement. It is inevitable that if we lack the will to fight it out or vigor to win the war at any cost, we shall be first beaten in our own mind. It is also natural that those with a will to fight it out and a vigor to win at any cost by surmounting all difficulties will first win in their own mind. It follows logically that this category of people will eventually be crowned with success and gain a glorious victory. If we have the will to fight it out, there can be no room for any complaint or discontent arising from selfishness and greed.

We are often apt to be too generous in regard to ourselves and are liable to flatter ourselves that we have a strong enough will. But if we calmly reflect, we might sometimes find that we have something in our hearts that needs rectification. This is the road to final victory in the war: that we try always to reflect on ourselves and strengthen our will to fight to a victorious end;

GERMANS OUTWIT BRITISH BOMBERS

Reich Night Fighters Attack Enemy Formation Over Straits of Dover

Attesting to the perfection of the German defense structure, the new bombing strategy employed by the British in an attempt to hamper the mobilization of the German night fighters as well as to minimize their losses was dealt a smashing blow before the speedy German counter-measures, according to an article appearing in the Mainichi. The journal declared as follows:

Nevertheless, this new bombing strategy of the British air force, which cleverly took advantage of atmospheric conditions in addition to the employment of feinting tactics, is one aspect of the ever-progressing bombing strategy in this form of modern warfare. Furthermore, it brings out the necessity of complete air defense measures to cope with the terror-raids carried out by the enemy who resort to every possible means to achieve their purpose. As this question is worthy of attention, we cite here one example of this British strategy.

Hitherto, the terror-raids carried out on various German cities, especially on Berlin, were chiefly conducted by the British bombers on cloudless moonlit nights. However, since the middle of November last year, the British chose dark cloudy nights which are peculiar to the areas surrounding the Straits of Dover. As the warm air current coming from the direction of the Atlantic Ocean and the cold air current sweeping down from the Arctic region clash over the British Isles, the weather immediately becomes unsettled usually resulting in the formation of black clouds and followed by heavy rainfall. This peculiar atmospheric condition gradually shifts over to the Continent and consequently, the British are aware of the fact that if this type of weather is experienced in England, it will surely sweep over Germany some hours later.

Assemble Over Straits

As this inclement weather condition shifts toward the European Continent, the skies over England begin to clear although occasional showers do occur, at which time British bombers take to the air from numerous air bases scattered over the southeastern part of the British Isles. As soon as these bombers take off they assemble at a starting point over the Straits to form a squadron of some 1,000 planes which divide into four flights when it reaches a point over the Netherlands coast. Near Cologne, each formation assumes a different altitude ranging from 5,000 to 8,000 meters. The bombers are escorted by long-range fighters on all sides and led by "pathfinder" planes manned by well-trained pilots.

After passing over the Rhine at a point south of Cologne, the formations spread out in four different directions. One flight bombs Cassel and another attacks Mainz, while the third and fourth formations carry out feinting tactics in the direction of Leipzig and Frankfurt. Instead of releasing their bombs over these two cities, however, they quickly change their course and make straight for Berlin, which is their main objective. Immediately upon reaching the sky over Berlin, they drop numerous parachute-flares. Then the other three waves arrive in rapid succession by way of Frankfurt and Leipzig and blindly release their bombs into heavy clouds, over the spot where the parachute-flares were released. Upon releasing all their bombs, they break formation and head for their base. The British raids on Cassel and Mainz are only feinting attacks also for the purpose of dispersing the German night fighters. In addition, they also resort to other strategies such as dropping parachute-flares over Leipzig or by sending another wave to bomb Hanover.

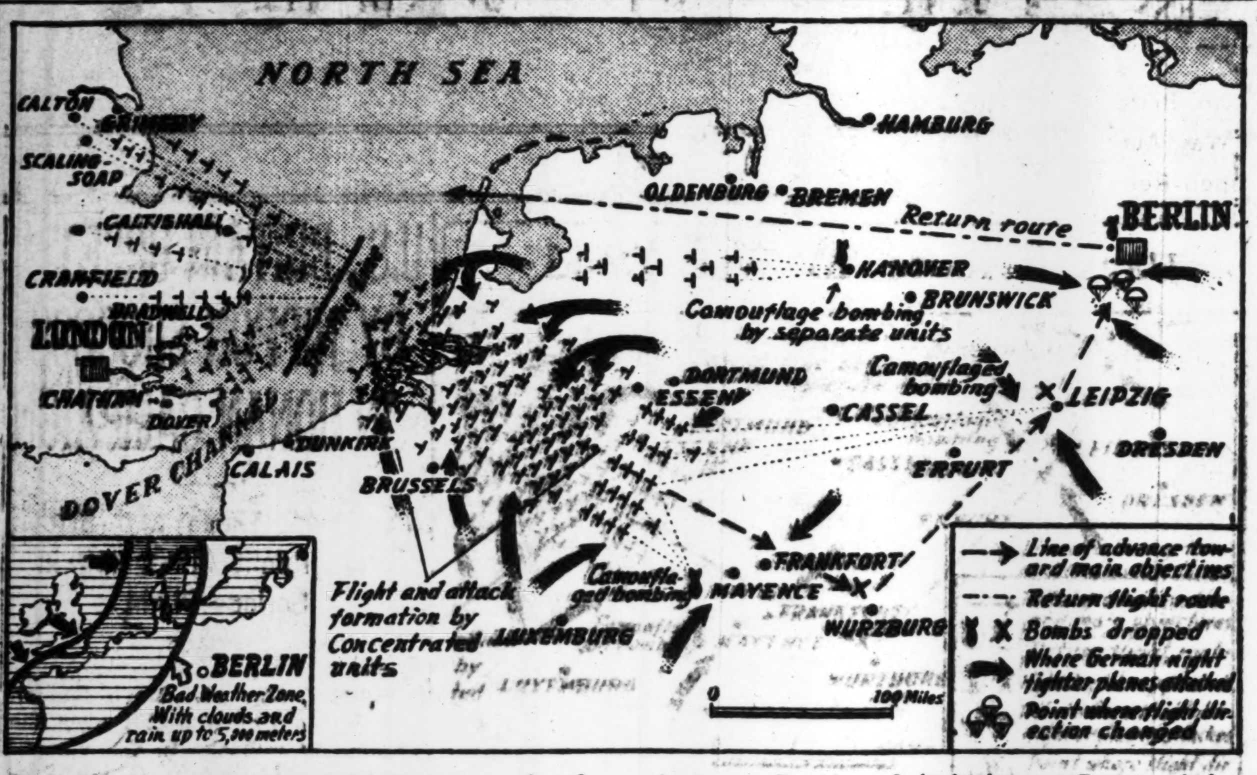
Night Fighters Meet Foe

This British strategy proved effective in its first attempt because the German night fighters were not able to move freely due to mist and heavy clouds. However, two or three days later, the Germans had swiftly completed counter-measures and as a result inflicted devastating losses on the enemy in subsequent raids. With the enemy massing a large formation of planes over the Straits, the Germans took advantage of this situation and ordered its night fighters to take to the air and meet the enemy. While the German fighters engaged the British bombers over the Straits, the defense headquarters in close cooperation with the first-line commanders and technicians, mapped out the counter-measures to be taken. These night fighters, in addition to engaging the enemy over the Straits, report in detail to the headquarters on the outcome of the combat and other information regarding the enemy. These reports are flashed to the defense headquarters by means of highly-modernized communication facilities. On the basis of these reports, the headquarters accurately map out the position of the enemy every minute, their course, the speed and altitude as well as their feinting movements.

Thus, the Germans are able to judge where the enemy intends to carry out their attacks and, at the same time, decide on an opportune moment to deal a smashing blow to the enemy prior to their bombing attacks on Germany. Immediately upon receiving instructions from the headquarters, crack German night fighters take to the air and engage the enemy in fierce aerial combat. The new German night fighters which the British air force calls "cat's eyes" intercept the enemy formation over a point in the vicinity of Berlin. The German interception is not merely intended to repulse the raiders but they immediately take up the pursuit of the fleeing British bombers.

On April 29, after a long period of inactivity, a formation of 500 enemy planes carried out a night raid on Berlin. Out of this formation 129 or 25 per cent of the total number participating in the raid were shot down by the Germans. Although it is not known whether the huge losses suffered by the British were due to a weakness in their strategy, it nevertheless attests to the perfection of the German defense structure.

Germans Foil British Raid Tactics



Giving a rough outline of the strategy employed by the R.A.F. in the bombing of Berlin, the above map shows the point in the North Sea where the British planes assemble prior to breaking up into four flights as they near Cologne after which they carry out several feints in the direction of such towns as Cassel or Leipzig in an effort to shake off the German night fighters before finally arriving over Berlin where more Reich fighters join the battle to disperse and chase the raiders back over the coast.

Balkan Communists Routed

Special

BERLIN, May 14.—Severe losses were inflicted on the Communist bands in the Balkans by German troops last week. The Communists lost in one front sector alone 2,064 dead, 264 prisoners and 227 deserters while seven planes, two tanks, three guns, four trench mortars, 104 machine-guns as well as large quantities of munitions were captured or destroyed.

Foe's Plane Losses Claimed Bad Omen For Coming Invasion

Special

LISBON, May 14.—Dealing with the numerous difficulties which the Anglo-Americans face during their terror attacks, Colonel Jaf said in the Spanish paper, Arriba, that the severe losses daily inflicted on the Anglo-American air forces by the German defenses are not a good omen for the planned invasion. He declared that due to the "mass production" of pilots and the "commonplace morale" of the American people, quality has become greatly inferior to quantity. The Colonel pointed out that the American pilots have not the slightest idea of their mission, and that only the wing commander knows the target for attack. He asserted that an Arriba correspondent in Budapest personally experienced a case in which an American pilot, who was shot down over Budapest, did not know in which country Budapest is situated.

JAPANESE AIR UNITS SMASH 45 AIRCRAFT

(Continued From Page 1)

bombers and two other small craft parked on the airfield.

This attack was followed by a second at 9 a.m. and from a low altitude our airmen rained bombs on a group of aircraft parked on the field. The enemy was paralyzed by the swiftness of the raid. Japanese Air Units challenged 20-odd enemy fighters in furious combat, shooting down three P-40's (one probable) and damaging four others, including P-51's and P-40's.

At 3:40 p.m. the third raid was staged to deliver the final crushing blow and in which five B-25's and five fighters were heavily damaged or set ablaze. This attack cost the enemy four B-25's and 15 fighters destroyed leaving no single plane on the airfield.

Japanese battle-plane Units caught up with ten foe fighters consisting of five P-40's and five P-38's and downed four of the former.

In the morning raid, the plane piloted by Captain XX self-blasted while two others by Sergeant-Major XX and Sergeant XX have not yet returned. In the third attack, two planes piloted by Lieutenant XX and Sergeant XX also self-blasted.

Foe Admits Defeat

Domei

CANTON, May 15.—The air attack on the Suichwan air base, Kiangsi Province, on May 12 in which 45 enemy aircraft were destroyed is admitted in a United Press dispatch from Chungking.

The report says that the Japanese Air Units in large formations bombed Suichwan and other cities and engaged the American air force in severe air battles. The UP report further states that on the same day, Wuchow, a town along the border of Kwangtung and Kwangsi Provinces, was subjected to fierce bombing by Japanese planes. It added that on May 13 and 14, these Chinese air bases were completely devastated by the Japanese Air Force while Japanese scout planes conducted incessant reconnaissance over Kweilin and other towns in the vicinity of Lake Tungting.

U.S. Sugar Supply Low

Special to the Nippon Times

LISBON, May 14.—Sugar will not be removed from the rationing in the United States, according to Chester Bowles, Price Administrator, who declared that the sugar supply for this year is expected to be the lowest since Pearl Harbor.

AMERICA MAY BLACKLIST S.K.F. FIRM IN SWEDEN

U.S. Ready to Apply Economic Sanctions Against Neutral If Export Talks Fail

Special

STOCKHOLM, May 14.—The United States is prepared to apply economic sanctions against Sweden if negotiations over America's demand for stoppage of Swedish exports of ball bearings to Germany break down, according to a Washington dispatch.

The report said that the failure of the talks conducted by Stanton Griffith, head of the Foreign Department of the U.S. Board of Economic Warfare, who arrived here recently as special American envoy, might result in the severance of relations between the S.K.F. Ball Bearing Company in Sweden and its subsidiary firm, the S.K.F. Industries Incorporated, in the United States, as well as the blacklisting of the parent company—after the war as well as during the war—and its Latin-American subsidiaries.

It said that the United States Justice Department and Treasury Department are examining the files of the S.K.F. Industries Incorporated to determine its relationship with the parent concern, and are seeking to learn to what extent German interests may control the S.K.F. in Sweden.

JOHNSON TO VISIT MOSCOW

U.S. Chamber of Commerce Head to Discuss Postwar Issues

Special

LISBON, May 14.—Eric Johnson, president of the United States Chamber of Commerce, will leave soon for the Soviet Union where at the personal invitation of Premier Josef Stalin he will begin talks on postwar economic collaboration between the United States and the Soviet Union, according to a Washington dispatch.

Youthful advocate of "peoples' capitalism," Johnson, who is regarded in some quarters as a 'dark horse' for Republican President of the United States or Vice-President nomination, will be accompanied by William Lindsay White, editor of the Emporia Gazette of Kansas.

I.L.O. ADMITS ARGENTINES

Permits Labor Delegates to Attend Meeting at Philadelphia

Special to the Nippon Times

LISBON, May 14.—The International Labor Organization Conference meeting in Philadelphia has unanimously voted to admit the Argentine labor delegates to the meeting but at the same time they have denounced what they termed the Fascist regime now in power in Argentina.

The resolution disapproved the interference of the Argentine Government with the freedom of association and fredom of the press, conscious, thought and expression. It also pledged full support so that the once great trade unions of Argentina may soon regain their full freedom.

U.S. Party to Abyssinia

Domei

ANKARA, May 9.—An American economic delegation has left Washington for Abyssinia, reports Radio Ankara. It states that this trip is of special significance since up to now only the British have been trading in that country.

BRITAIN'S PROMISE TO INDIA SAID VOID

Thomas Declares England Will Be Far Behind U.S. in Postwar Period

Special to the Nippon Times

LISBON, May 14.—A curious mixture of compliments and insults against Britain is contained in "What is Our Destiny?" the latest campaign literature by Norman Thomas, America's perpetual Socialist candidate for presidency, states the Telegraph correspondent from Washington.

Thomas describes as "empty if not hypocritical" the British promise to give India self-government and independence when Indian parties can agree among themselves without Britain's aid. Thomas condemns the statement by Churchill that Britain shall hold its own no matter how many of its allies die.

Admitting at one point that "any notion of decadence in the British Empire has been pretty effectively dispelled," Thomas states elsewhere that apart from such assets as Empire air bases and Churchill's leadership, Britain, after the war, will in every respect be "far behind the United States."

Churchill is described by the author as the "outstanding leader of the war and a strategist who, more than Roosevelt, has directed our policies." Thomas' objection to him is that Churchill promises "far less for peace." Thomas has nothing good to say of the British Socialist party.

SPRINGFIELD BISHOP CURBS REV. ORLEMANSKI'S RIGHTS

Privileges Suspended After His Return to Parish Following Meet With Stalin

Special

LISBON, May 14.—A dispatch from Springfield, Massachusetts, revealed that only a few hours after he had returned to his parish after a conference in Moscow with Premier Stalin, the priestly privileges of the Reverend Stanislaus Orlemanski were suspended indefinitely by his superior, the Most Reverend Thomas O'Leary, Catholic Bishop of Springfield. The announcement was made by the Reverend George J. Shea, Chancellor of the diocese, who explained that Bishop O'Leary had imposed the canonical penalties which would prevent Orlemanski from celebrating mass and from performing any divine office for an indefinite period.

Meanwhile, the New York Herald Tribune carried a Springfield report which said that Orlemanski gave a press interview in which he expressed indignation over Bishop O'Leary's public announcement. Orlemanski was quoted as saying, "I have done nothing immoral, nothing transgressing God's law." While Shea declined to give complete details of Orlemanski's alleged violation of church law, the Herald Tribune correspondent said that Orlemanski's activities in Moscow and connection with Communism were believed to be the reason.

Another report said that Orlemanski had sent a message to Bishop O'Leary, in which he declared that he was no longer under the jurisdiction of Bishop O'Leary but under that of the Apostolic Nuncia, Archbishop Amleto Cicognani, in Washington.

MAHATMA TO OBSERVE SILENCE FOR FORTNIGHT

Said to Ensure Uninterrupted Rest—Considerable Fall in Health Reported

Special

LISBON, May 14.—Mahatma Gandhi has decided to observe silence for a fortnight in order to ensure uninterrupted rest, according to the bulletin issued on Gandhi's health today, a New Delhi dispatch disclosed.

The silence will be broken earlier if it produces an adverse effect, the bulletin added. It also stated that after a quiet morning and fairly good night, the Mahatma was feeling more rested this morning.

An AP report reaching here, however, said that Gandhi's health has considerably deteriorated and that he often lost consciousness for long intervals.

The dispatch said that Gandhi's friends are greatly alarmed over this turn in his illness. The few words which he was able to utter on the morning of May 12 were that he had never felt so sick as now.

P-51 Shot Down

Domei

SHANGHAI, May 15.—The Japanese Units shot down one of the four North-American P-51's that attacked Shihshou, Hupeh Province, along the Yangtze River on the afternoon of May 11, and inflicted considerable damage on the others. No damage was suffered by our Units.

48 Yankees Killed When Liberty Ship Sinks Off Scotland

Special

LISBON, May 14.—Forty-eight American seamen were lost recently when another U.S. Liberty ship, William Welch, was grounded and destroyed off Scotland during a blizzard, according to a Washington dispatch, adding that five members of the crew and seven naval gunners were the only survivors.

SLOVAK LEADERS ASSURED OF VICTORY BY FUEHRER

Expresses Determination to Fight on Until Security of Europe Is Attained

Domei

BERLIN, May 14.—Expressing his firm determination to fight on until final victory is attained and the security of all the nations of Europe guaranteed, Chancellor Adolf Hitler, on May 12, again emphasized Germany's loyalty to the cause of its allies. This statement of the Fuehrer's was especially significant, according to the Wilhelmstrasse, in that it was made in the presence of the representatives of the small nation of Slovakia.

The Slovak President Dr. Josef Tiso, escorted by Prime Minister Dr. Bela Vojtech Tuka, War Minister General Ferdinand Catlos and Propaganda Chief Tido Gaspar arrived at the Fuehrer's Headquarters on May 12 and were most cordially received by the Fuehrer.

During the discussions, which were also attended by Reich Foreign Minister Joachim von Ribbentrop and Field Marshal Wilhelm Keitel, Chief of the Reich High Command, the Fuehrer assured the Slovakian President of his determination to fight on without thought of compromise until all Europe was freed from suppression by Jews, capitalists and Bolshevists.

Referring to the note addressed by the anti-Axis Powers to Rumania, Bulgaria, Finland and Hungary, the Wilhelmstrasse spokesman declared that the Allies of Germany, fully aware of the trickeries of the Anglo-American and Soviet leaders and doubly reassured by the Fuehrer's significant statement, would decidedly reject the dubious assurances given them by the anti-Axis nations.

On the evening of May 12, the Slovakian statesmen together with the Slovak Ambassador to Berlin and the German Ambassador to Slovakia were guests of Foreign Minister von Ribbentrop.

Fuehrer's Headquarters

May 14

The last German and Rumanian troops on the Crimea were transported to the mainland yesterday. Since November 1, 1943, the Soviets had been storming the German-Rumanian defenses on the Crimea with numerically far superior forces and in April, it became necessary to withdraw our troops and to narrow the ring of defense around Sebastopol. Further Soviet attempts at piercing this ring with 29 rifle divisions, several artillery divisions, tank and marine brigades and to annihilate our forces were frustrated with heavy losses inflicted on the enemy. Our fighters, battleplanes and Stukas excellently supported the ground troops and in the period between April 8 and May 12 destroyed 604 enemy machines, 196 tanks, and 133 guns.

In the course of the unparalleled transfer operation, units of the German and Rumanian navy and mercantile marine as well as the transport formations of the Luftwaffe transported the German and its allied troops from the Crimea to the mainland despite strong enemy attacks.

On the lower Dniester, our troops liquidated another Soviet bridgehead and annihilated strong Soviet forces. The enemy lost numerous dead, apart from 750 prisoners, 44 guns and numerous other arms which were either captured or destroyed.

The Fastov Railway Station was raided last night by our bombers causing numerous conflagrations and explosions.

No important events are reported from the other sectors of the Eastern Front apart from lively local fighting activity in the forefield of the Carpathian Mountains.

At the Nettuno landing head, there was only slight fighting activity. The fighting on the Italian southern front, particularly in the area north of Castelforte and south of Cassino, continued to grow in intensity and our forces inflicted heavy casualties on the enemy and captured many prisoners. After embittered fighting, the enemy with the support of strong artillery, tank and battleplane formations succeeded in gaining ground in one sector and the battle is continuing.

Early yesterday morning, our bombers successfully raided the Naples harbor district, while in repulsing enemy air attacks against northern Italy, our air defenses downed 10 enemy machines.

U.S. bombers escorted by strong fighter formations bombed several districts of the Baltic Sea and western Germany causing damage and casualties particularly in the towns of Stettin and Osnabrueck. During these raids as well as over the occupied western areas, 41 enemy raiders were shot down.

Off the Dutch coast, our patrol boats set ablaze a British torpedo boat last night and damaged several others.

COMMUNISTS FAIL TO STIR UP STRIKES

Attempted to Start Revolts in Portugal, Spain When Foes Launched Invasion

Special

GENEVA, May 14.—The recent big strike effort in Portugal was to be a sort of a dress rehearsal of a Communist revolt in the opinion of well-informed Portuguese circles, which pointed out elements hostile to the State wanted to try to find out how great their influence was on workers and to what extent the workers would follow Communist leadership prior to beginning decisive action. These circles added that the actual strike was to occur on the moment the much-threatened invasion of Europe was launched by the Anglo-Americans.

The anti-Axis landing was to be the signal for elements hostile to the State in Portugal as well as in Spain to start revolts with the object of eliminating the Governments of Prime Minister Dr. Antonio de Oliveira Salazar of Portugal and Chief of State General Francisco Franco of Spain and establishing Governments friendly to the Anglo-Americans and the Soviets, according to these well-informed quarters. The first measure thereafter was to be a declaration of war on Germany and a supporting of the second front.

Well-informed circles asserted that it was obvious that the efforts against the State in both Portugal and Spain were not only supported but instigated by the Soviets and the Anglo-Americans. Moreover, it was ascertained that the leaflets urging Portuguese workers to go on strike were printed in North Africa and smuggled into Portugal by De Gaullist agents.

Anti-state circles also started the rumor that the workers need have no fear of failure because they would have Anglo-American aid at the proper moment.

The complete failure of the Communist strike which was scheduled for May 8 and 9, is regarded here as a great disappointment to strike wirepullers. It is also learned here that Communist propaganda is now being directed against organizations which form the foundations of the State, such as the army. Leaflets are being distributed in the barracks and soldiers as well as legionaires are being threatened that they would be shot in case of a change in Government if they did not assume a different attitude in time.

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Burma
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Malai
Ipoh, Johore-Bharu, Kuala-Kangsar, Kuala-Lipis, Kuala-Lumpur, Kuantan, Malacca, Penang, Seremban, Shonan, Tandjoeng-Pinang (Shonan), Taiping.
Sumatra
Benecoolen, Bukit-Tinggi, Djambi, Kota-Raja, Lho-Saumawe, Medan, Padang, Pakanbaroe, Palembang, Pangkal-Pinang, Pematang-Siantar, Siboiga, Telok-Betong.
Djawa
Bandoeng, Bodjonegoro, Bogor, Djakarta, (Stationsplein & Noordwijk) Djember, Jogjakarta, Kediri, Madioen, Magelang, Malang, Pamekasan, Pekalongan, Poerwokerto, Semarang, Serang, Soerakarta, Sourabaya, Tjirebon.
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BURMA PRESENTS RELICS OF BUDDHA

Brought Here by Ba Han for Safekeeping; Visitors to Make Calls Today

Placed in the careful safekeeping of Dr. Ba Han, head of the Burmese Special Investigation Mission, the sacred relics of Buddha arrived in Japan on Sunday with the Mission. Dr. Ba Maw, Head of State and Prime Minister of Burma, had presented the sacred relics to Japan as a symbol of everlasting fraternal love between the peoples of Japan and Burma, bound as the two peoples are by ties of common religion.

In connection with the sending of the Buddha relics to Japan, Prime Minister Ba Maw had written to Hyogoro Sakurai, the former Adviser to the Japanese Military Administration in Burma, as follows:

"The sacred relics are sent as a symbol of eternal friendship and brotherly love between the peoples of Japan and Burma. The sacred relics in the Botatoung Pagoda, one of the three great pagodas of Burma, symbolize the very life of the Burmese people. It is a great honor and indescribable joy to us that the very life of the Burmese people should be presented to our brother nation, Japan."

The send-off ceremonies for the sacred relics were held at the Shwe Dagon Pagoda in the outskirts of Rangoon on April 27. About 70,000 people including the Prime Minister were present at the rites, conducted in ancient ceremonial style as observed in the days of the Burmese kings.

The idea of bringing the sacred relics to Japan was first thought of when Mr. Sakurai visited the Shwe Dagon Pagoda three days after his arrival in Burma in May of 1942. He discussed the matter with the 91-year-old Chief Priest at the famous pagoda and made known his intentions at the time to make all endeavors to build pagodas at suitable spots in Japan to repose the sacred relics on his return home.

The Burmese people have been deeply impressed by the sincerity of the Japanese people and the sending of the sacred relics was taken up as a national matter. Moreover, the atrocious bombing of the pagodas by the beastly Americans and British served to intensify the burning desire on the part of the Burmese people to remove the sacred relics to some safe spot. It was decided that Japan, which shared the same religion with Burma, was the best place to repose the sacred relics.

As soon as Mr. Sakurai learned of the sending of the sacred relics, he immediately got in touch with authorities in the Ministries of Greater East Asiatic Affairs and Education, Japan-Burma Society, Japan Buddhist Association and other organizations and all efforts were made to prepare for the arrival of the relics.

From his own private funds, Mr. Sakurai has built four sanctuaries located at Mt. Takao, one of the mountain peaks in the Hakusan mountain range in Kaga; the Kongobuji Temple in Mt. Koya; Sojiji Temple in Tsurumi and a certain place in Kyoto. Exact replicas of the Botatoung and Shwe Dagon pagodas were also erected in these spots for the repose of the sacred relics.

Brimming with joy on the safe arrival of the relics, Mr. Sakurai declared:

"The Japanese people are overjoyed to welcome the sacred relics from the ancient Burmese temples. I am also happy that the matter is directly related to my assumption of the post of reconstruction work in Burma. The sacred relics removed to Japan from the ravages of ruthless bombings of the Anglo-Americans by the united wish of the Burmese people will bring peace and ecstasy to the people of Japan."

The presentation ceremonies will take place at Hibiya Public Hall from 1 p.m. on May 29.

It was also reported that Dr. Ba Han and the members of the Mission are scheduled to pay formal calls today on Navy Minister Admiral Shigetaro Shimada at 2:30 p.m., Foreign Minister Mamoru Shigemitsu at 3 p.m. and Imperial Household Minister Tsuneo Matsudaira at 3:30 p.m. They will also leave their cards with Lieutenant-General Kyoji Tominaga, Vice-Minister of War, and the heads of the other Ministries as well as the President of the Board of Information.

In the evening, the Burmese Mission will attend a banquet given in their honor by the Ministry of Greater East Asiatic Affairs.

Opening as Training Hall

The Kanko House in Suma-no-Ura, Kobe, will be transformed into a Youths' Training Hall and will be opened on June 1 to Kobe residents providing them with recreational facilities. The Kanko House was constructed in 1937 and, before the war, it was frequented by foreign tourists.

Heroes at Cape Torokina Donate ¥58,098 For Building of More Planes to Crush Foe

Prior to their participation in a major offensive against the American Forces at Cape Torokina on Bougainville Island, the officers and men of a Japanese fighting unit donated to the War Ministry the sum of ¥58,098 as a contribution toward aircraft production increase, according to Domei.

Since the beginning of March this year, the Japanese Forces at Cape Torokina have been exercising heavy pressure on the well-equipped enemy forces comprising one and a half divisions, inflicting staggering losses on them.

The donation reached the War Ministry on May 13, Prime Minister General Hideki Tojo and all other staff members of the War Office were deeply moved by the display of their strong patriotic feeling.

It can be easily imagined that those officers and men are fighting with the resolution to fight to the finish. Unlike the enemy soldiers, they have no desire to spend their money on what luxuries are obtainable at the front such as wines, spirits, sweets, cigarettes and so on. On the contrary, they are resolved not only to do their very best at the front but also to make as big a contribution as possible toward the speedy production of aircraft at home.

The 100,000,000 people in Japan, who are well aware of the real conditions under which the Japanese Forces are fighting in the southwestern Pacific, are overwhelmed with gratitude to those officers and men who do not have a thought for their own personal comforts.

The people on the home front are now more than ever determined to double and redouble their efforts for the speedy expansion of the aircraft industry so that they may keep apace with the deep patriotism of the Japanese officers and men.

SETBACKS IN HONAN WORRYING YANKEES

Japanese Success Strains Chungking-U.S. Relations, Say Tokyo Editorials

The far-reaching significance of the Honan operations by the Imperial Japanese Forces was stressed by the editorials of the principal newspapers in Tokyo during the week ending May 11. Other important topics were: American-Chungking relations in respect to the Honan campaign; the second anniversary of the naval battle of the Coral Sea; the recent agreement between the Soviet Union and the exile Czechoslovakian government; the proposed second front problem; the development of Indian affairs and domestic conditions in the enemy camp.

After pointing out that the swift military operations carried out by the Japanese Forces in the Honan plains in North China along both the Peking-Hankow railway and the Lunghai railway have resulted in the routing of General Tang En-po's army and in the capture of several important strategic points, the Asahi explains that this military success has crushed the American-Chungking attempt to recapture North China in order to make it a springboard for their air attacks on the Japanese mainland.

The journal believes that the complete defeat of General Tang's army, which is under direct control of General Chiang Kai-shek, will have disastrous and far-reaching effects on Chungking politically as well as militarily. However, the paper warns that due to the Honan operations friendly relations between Chungking and the Chinese Communist party may result. The paper concludes by stressing the need of closer cooperation between Japan and Nanking as the best means of defeating the Chungking regime.

The Yomiuri-Hochi points out the growing influence of the Chinese Communist party in North China in connection with the latest operations of the Imperial Forces in that region and states that although superficially the Chungking regime has been suppressing the Chinese Reds, in reality it is attempting to utilize their power to wage war against Japan. The paper explains that the Chinese Communist party has already begun a nationwide campaign to intensify the struggle against Japan, to develop production activities and to extend educational and cultural facilities to all. The paper warns against the future activities of the Chinese Reds through the instigation of the Anglo-Americans who are utilizing them as their tools.

The attitude of the United States is commented upon by the Mainichi in two editorials. In the first editorial entitled "Plain Realities," the journal takes up the recent stress laid by the American Government on the need of recognizing the difficulties ahead and prolongation of the war. After stating that the United States is determined to adopt all conceivable means in order to annihilate Japan, it declared that the Japanese people should realize that the war means for them a struggle in which they will lose or win all.

In the other editorial entitled "The Enemy's Weakness," the Mainichi takes up the recent internal strife among the American forces as reported in a Lisbon dispatch and the cruel act of American flyers at Rabaul. The paper declares that this moral weakness of the American forces has been made up hitherto by the power of material goods and predicts that when some great mishap occurs, this internal weakness will prove calamitous to the national existence of the United States. "There are signs of such a calamity," the paper concludes.

The Tokyo Shimbun writes on the second anniversary of the naval battle of the Coral Sea and discusses the significance of the Nimitz Offensive in the South Pacific. After describing the results of that momentous battle, the paper points out that during the two years since then the Nimitz offensive has only been one of propaganda. "The American navy is committing suicide," the daily declares, "being instigated by the plotting of Prime Minister Winston Churchill who is trying to avoid being the 'liquidator of the British Empire' and the inordinate ambitions of President Roosevelt who is utilizing the United States fleet as his instruments."

The recent release of Mahatma Gandhi by the British Government of India is taken up by the Asahi. The paper points out the rapid transformation of India since he was imprisoned in August, 1942 and says that the following main tasks are awaiting the efforts of Gandhi: the demand for the immediate release of the Indian Congress leaders who are now imprisoned, the movement for the establishment of a national government for India and the organization of anti-British activities. The paper states that Gandhi has the greatest opportunity of his life to carry out his ideals if he is true to his convictions.

The Tokyo Shimbun devotes two editorials to Indian affairs, one on the growth of the Indian National Army and the other on the Sepoy Mutiny. Praising the rapid development of the Indian National Army, the paper says, "It is unprecedented in world history that a national army has made such a rapid and wonderful development in so short a period."

The paper takes up the Sepoy Mutiny which took place in India 87 years ago on May 10 and which might be called the first Indian independence war. The paper points out the various landmarks of India's independence movement since that revolt against British misrule and finds special significance in the fact that the anniversary of this memorable event is observed by Gandhi just released from prison. If the 400 million people of India should resolve anew to fight British rule on that important day, the Sepoys who fell in that open revolt will be avenged.

Concerning the relations between the Anglo-Americans and Chungking, the Mainichi points out that Chungking has been unexempted from the restrictions against foreign envoys and consular officials in Britain in preparation for the second front attempt. "As the Anglo-Americans become all the more frantic with the aggravation of the war situation," the journal says, "their critical judgments of Chungking will become more severe because they will come to realize its value to themselves. They know full well that Chiang Kai-shek is wholly dependent on the Anglo-Americans for help and it is because of this that they treat him with impunity."

Turning to the recent report of a loan to be extended by Britain to Chungking, the paper says that it is an indication of the existing rivalry between the United States and Britain over Chungking and that it is not really intended as an assistance to the Chiang regime. Such a loan, moreover, will not prove effective in remedying the unsound economic conditions in Chungking, the journal concludes.

The Tokyo Shimbun also takes up the problem of Chungking-America relations and asks if the United States will stop its assistance to Chungking if the latter should prove undemocratic in its inclinations and states that the exact nature of the Chiang regime is actively discussed in the United States.

The same paper also takes up the political expansion of the Soviet Union which has recently concluded a new agreement with the exile Czechoslovakian regime which move is considered by the paper as an advance in Soviet diplomatic offensive. The paper believes that the intention of the Soviet Union is to undertake military action outside its territory and may be regarded as a positive extension of the pan-Slav movement. "The Soviet's attempt to build political bridgeheads in various parts of Europe," the journal says, "in advance of the Anglo-Americans and at their concessions, will eventually lead to an open clash with the latter, who are harboring ambitions to attain a dominant position in Europe, although superficially they are at peace."

The recent economic conditions both in the United States and Britain are taken up by the Tokyo Shimbun which concludes that Britain must recover at least part of the trade it has already lost to the United States during the present war while American economy demands that it make inroads into the British colonial empire in order to survive and thus the two Anglo-Saxon nations are destined to carry on their mutual strife.

The Yomiuri-Hochi takes up the recent conference of the Prime Ministers of the British Commonwealth and the meeting of the American Economic and Financial Committee in Washington and predicts that the increasing British demands for Dominion assistance for the prosecution of the war will inevitably result in a greater strain on Britain and that this will spell the doom of the British Empire. The journal believes that the recent report of Eden's visit to Moscow to be true as it must be in connection with preparations for the expected second front undertaking.

WINNERS REVEALED IN ESSAY CONTEST

18 Win Prizes in Competition On War Aims Sponsored by Nippon-Reich Culture Body

The winners of the prize essay contest, sponsored by the Japan-Germany Cultural Society with the support of the Foreign Office and Board of Information, on "The Common War Aims of Japan and Germany" from the political, cultural and economic points of view were announced by the Society Monday.

Of the 425 contestants, including nine women, who submitted essays, 173 wrote on the theme from the political angle, 76 from the economic and 175 from the cultural. Of the same total, 370 entrants were of the Japanese mainland, 11 of the Hokkaido, two of Okinawa, 20 of Chosen, one of Taiwan, six of the Kwantung Leased Territory, 13 residents of Manchoukuo, one of Malai and one of Hainan Island.

The contest was opened in February of this year, when the following statement of purpose was published:

"The United States and Britain, for the sake of their own comfort and prosperity, had been giving full play to their unbridled ambition to rule the world and, behind the mask of justice and humanity, had ruthlessly been sacrificing other nations. To further their ambition they did not scruple to exploit and oppress others. Neither Heaven nor man can condone the vile methods and tyrannical cruelty they perpetrated. Against the weaker nations they used any method they deemed fit, turning them into colonies or quasi-colonies, enslaving their population and denuding their countries of resources. Against the more powerful, they took pains to interfere with their progress and sought to place them under their influence in an endeavor to rule the world.

Provoked Current War

"Viewing this matter in connection with their relations with Germany and Japan, it is seen that they went out of their way to reduce Germany to a state of abject prostration by means of the Versailles Treaty and, when they found that the heroic German people were rising above their misery on the path of new glory, breaking the fetters of that one-sided treaty, they provoked the current war in their attempt to strangulate her to death. As regards Japan, when Britain saw that her national fortunes were waxing through her splendid efforts she forthwith abrogated the Anglo-Japanese Alliance Treaty and thenceforth brought pressure to bear upon her at every turn. The United States, too, turned eyes of envy and suspicion upon her and exerted extreme forms of economic and military pressure against her. The so-called ABCD encirclement front was the final symbol of that impudent persecution.

"To shatter this traditional Anglo-Saxon conspiracy and to liberate entire mankind, Japan and Germany, in concert with their allies, are now developing their hallowed war against the United States and Britain. It is the supreme task charged upon us to fight this war to the end and to establish lasting world peace and eternal happiness of mankind.

"At such a moment, the Japan-Germany Cultural Society, in conjunction with the Japan-Germany Cultural Society at Berlin, has decided to conduct a prize essay contest on the theme: 'The Common War Aims of Japan and Germany.' It is hoped that all thinking persons will enter so that the firm will of the Japanese and German peoples may be clarified and their fighting spirit rendered higher than ever."

Prize Winners

The first prize of ¥2,000 for political essay went to Nobuhiko Murakami, general manager of the publishing department of Kofukan, Ltd., of Nishi-Sugamo, Tokyo, and second prize of ¥1,000 to Toshiharu Narita, a student in the law department of the Tokyo Imperial University, of Hongo, Tokyo. Four third prizes of ¥250 each were received by Zenji Katsuki, Takeo Kitamura, Mineyoshi Maruyama and Eiichi Machida.

The first prize of ¥2,000 for a cultural essay went to Mrs. Tokiko Shinohara, graduate of Tokyo Women's University, of Yubari, Hokkaido and second prize of ¥1,000 to Ichiro Karino, a company clerk, of Suginami-ku, Tokyo. Four third prizes of ¥250 each were received by Mitsuo Nakamura, Eijiro Tachibana, Eiji Shimba and Bunnojo Matsumoto.

The first prize of ¥2,000 for an economic essay went to Nobuo Sasao, a student of Iwakuni City, Yamaguchi Prefecture and second prize of ¥1,000 to Tadaichi Matsuzaki, a student in the University Hall of the Tokyo Imperial University, of Nagasaki-cho, Toshima-ku, Tokyo. Four third prizes of ¥250 each were received by Yoshijiro Ishizaka, Gen Nakao, Maizo Nakazuma and Masao Kubota.

The contest judges included Marquis Saburo Inoue, President of the Japan-Germany Cultural Society, chairman of the committee; Shinichi Murakami, Director of the Political Affairs Bureau of the Foreign Office; Yoshiro Ando, Director of the Bureau of Treaties of the Foreign Office; Sadao Iguchi, head of the third department of the Board of Information; Dr. Erich Boltze, councillor of the German Embassy; Reinhold Schultze, head of the cultural department of the German Embassy; Baron Takateru Mitsui, chairman of the board of directors of the Japan-Germany Cultural Society; Dr. Yasuma Takata, professor in the Kyoto Imperial University and Dr. Genyoku Kuwaki, professor emeritus at the Tokyo Imperial University.

Obituary

Toichiro Harada, president of the Kobe Shimbun, died of acute pneumonia on Sunday at his Kyoto home at the age of 65. Formerly a New York correspondent of the Asahi Shimbun and also chief of the Kyushu branch of the same paper, the late Mr. Harada has been president of the Kobe Shimbun since November, 1942.

Funeral services were observed at the Aoyama Funeral Hall on Saturday for Kanji Ogawa, air pilot of the Japan Airways Company, who died in the Southern Regions while in the service of the Imperial Forces as a Civil Administrator of the Army.

Mrs. Kaneko Tezuka, 63, formerly professor of the Japan Women's College at Mejiro, died at 7 p.m. on May 11 of heart failure. She was known as an expert on cookery.

East Asia Round-Up

Coconut By-Products

Special

MANILA, May 15.—Scientists of the Board of Nutritional Research have succeeded in making cheese and protein powder from coconut both of which have been found to be good substitutes for milk. The protein powder is emulsifiable in water and is like commercial powdered milk. At the same time, the Board announced vitamins have been successfully extracted from grass.

Cultural School Opens

Domei

DJAKARTA, May 15.—The Asia Cultural Institute has been established here, sponsored by the Japanese Military Administration, to encourage the study by Japanese and native residents of each other's languages and promoting the exchange of cultures. It will also function as liaison between the Javanese students studying in Japan and their families and classes in Japanese and Javanese will shortly be opened at the institute.

Migrating to Bintan

Special

SHONAN, May 15.—The settlement plan for Bintan Island for Shonan Malais and Indians was received with wholehearted support of two communities here and the first group settler-farmers have made all necessary arrangements to leave for their new homes soon.

Postal Laws Revised

Domei

SHONAN, May 15.—Postal authorities announced on May 12 that henceforth, letters and post cards for Japan including Karafuto may now be written in plain Malai language, either in romanized or Japanese characters. The announcement added that addresses must however be written in the Japanese language.

Irrigating Java Rivers

Special

DJAKARTA, May 15.—The 2,000,000-guilder project planned for improvement of irrigation works around the Opak and the Progo rivers flowing in the western part of Djogja Sultanate has entered the stage of realization with the departure to Djogjakarta of 10 engineers belonging to the Transport Department of the Japanese Military Administration.

Tagalog Classes Popular

Special

MANILA, May 15.—Reflecting the great enthusiasm in the study of Tagalog language more than 20 Tagalog classes have already been created in the different ministries, according to the Education Ministry.

Metals Council Created

Special

HSINKING, May 15.—The Light Metals Production Increase Consultation Council was established here by industrial concerns directly connected with the production of light metals at a meeting held here at the Memorial Hall on May 10.

Opening Social Centers

Special

LEGASPI, May 15.—In order to aid indigent residents far from puericulture centers, dispensaries or hospitals, the Legaspi Women's Auxiliary of the Kalibapi is at present establishing social service stations throughout the province.

Should Emulate Nippon

Domei

MANILA, May 15.—Camilo Osias, Director-General of the Kalibapi, who toured Japan and Manchoukuo as a member of the Philippine Gratitude Mission, in an address to officials and employes of the Kalibapi on May 11, pointed out that Filipino people should follow the example of the Japanese in regard to having the "national center of gravity."

Nippon-Go Program Held

Special

MANILA, May 15.—The inaugural program of the Nippon-go circle was held recently by the Iloilo Nippon-go enthusiasts featured by Japanese songs, dances, recitations, dialogues and readings. Governor Fermin Caram is the honorary president of this organization.

Fete Revolution Day

Domei

SHANGHAI, May 15.—The entire Indian community here on May 10 joined their countrymen throughout East Asia in celebrating the 87th anniversary of the Indian National Revolution of May 10, 1857. Large monetary contributions were collected for the Indian National Army Fund.

NAVIGATION EASED ON CHINA'S RIVERS

Revised Regulations Will Facilitate Civilian Shipping, States Japanese Embassy

Special

NANKING, May 14.—Revised navigation regulations on Central China's waterways have greatly alleviated restrictions on civilian shipping, declared a statement issued by the Japanese Embassy this afternoon.

In listing the salient points of the revision, the Embassy authorities revealed firstly that the former special restrictions on transportation of passengers and freight had been abolished and both traffic would be placed under the general regulations.

Secondly, for the time being, private vessels of 30 tons or under will be allowed to navigate on the Yangtze River and other streams without navigation permits.

Thirdly, vessels of over 30 tons which are affiliated with the Central China Junk Association or the Central China River Shipowners' Association would, in principle, not require navigation permits while those vessels registered with the above two associations engaged in coastal shipping would be given permits by the navy authorities.

Fourthly, the procedure for application and issuance of navigation permits had been simplified.

Authorities of the Japanese Embassy pointed out that the present revision is the result of the effective maintenance of peace and order by the populace under the administration of the National Government of China. And the Embassy asked the people to cooperate further in putting a stop to the smuggling of various materials and supplies.

Chou Welcomes Revision

Meanwhile, expressing gratitude toward the Japanese Army and Navy authorities for the modification of the restrictions on navigation on Central China's waterways, Chou Fo-hai, Vice-President of the Executive Yuan, declared that the measure would contribute greatly toward further promoting general welfare in Central China.

Pointing out the important role being played by river-craft in transportation in this part of China, Chou asserted that the revision would without doubt streamline maritime communication and transportation in Central China. He stated that the National Government of China would cancel customs duties which may hinder the development of navigation and transportation. Chou added that the National Government would deal severely with all smugglers.

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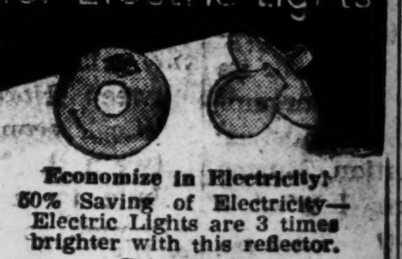

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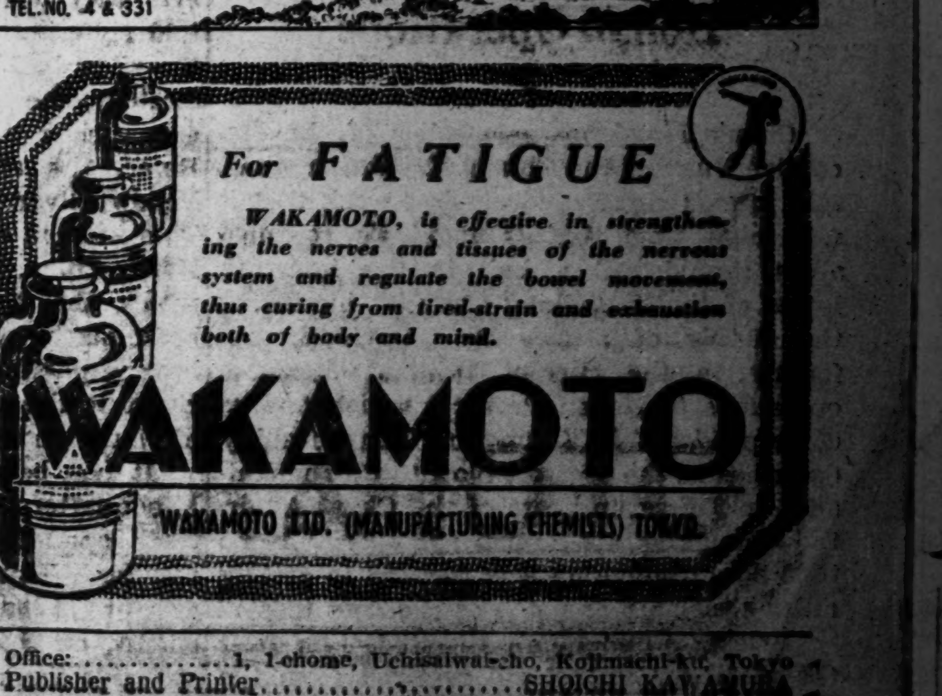
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Nippon Times
Published by The Nippon Times, Ltd.

TOKYO OFFICE:
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Telephone: Ginza (57) 303, 403, 5857, 5858, 5859, 7003.
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TOKYO, TUESDAY, MAY 16, 1944

The Burmese Mission

We extend a hearty welcome to the Burmese Special Investigation Mission headed by His Excellency Ba Han, elder brother of Head of State and Prime Minister Dr. Ba Maw. The party consists of Their Excellencies Ba Han, U. Soe Nyun and U Ba Nyein, special duty officers in the Office of the Prime Minister. The party has been sent here by the special order of the Head of State of Burma in order to inspect the wartime policies and measures with a view to contributing to the successful execution of the Joint Declaration of the Greater East Asiatic Nations. The mission also intends to promote friendly relations among all the members of the Common Prosperity Region and thereby contribute to the successful prosecution of the war.

Great, indeed, is the significance of the fact that in the midst of terrific warfare, Burma has sent such an important mission to this country, and that it is further sending similar missions to other members of the East Asiatic region.

Ever since it regained its independence, Burma has been continuing its strenuous efforts in the prosecution of the war and in the work of the construction of Greater East Asia with the result that she has become a great rising nation. And in order to assure its further development and progress and also for the general advancement of Greater East Asia through the successful waging of the present conflict, the Head of State of Burma has sent the Special Investigation Mission to this country. We are deeply impressed by this great zeal and enthusiasm.

All the nations of Greater East Asia have already mobilized their total power and have established an unshakable wartime structure in order to bring about the highest possible efficiency in administration and industry for the ultimate purpose of defeating the enemy. For such indeed is the historic mission which has been thrust upon the shoulders of all the races of the Greater East Asiatic Sphere.

The Head of State of Burma has made a sagacious selection in the members of the Special Investigation Mission. His Excellency Ba Han, whose sound judgment and keen intellectual qualities are well established, is assisted ably by Their Excellencies U Soe Nyun and U Ba Nyein who are men of profound learning and experience. There is no doubt that every convenience will be extended to the Mission by Japan and all other members of Greater East Asia.

Britain's tyranny in Burma has become a thing of the past with the complete vanishing of its dream of re-capturing that country. India has just begun its armed protest against its master in bloody strife for its independence. By perfecting its state organization and administrative and industrial efficiency as an independent nation, Burma will demonstrate before the world what a race which has been exploited by Britain for a century can achieve in its Asiatic racial consciousness in cooperation with all other members of the Common Prosperity Area. It is in this sense that we expect great results from the work to be carried out by the special mission headed by our distinguished visitor.

The Significance of the Honan Operations

I

Chang Ping-hsun, counsellor of the Executive Yuan of the Chiang Kai-shek regime, told foreign correspondents last week that it was high time that Chungking's so-called allies should call a halt to the immense losses of the Chungking army by increasing the supply of armaments. Obviously referring to the current brilliant Japanese operations in Honan Province which foreign correspondents in Chungking have frankly described as the greatest blow to Chiang Kai-shek in the seven years of the China Affair, the Chungking spokesman moaned: "At no time does Chungking look forward to getting allied assistance as much as she does today."

Voicing Chungking's dissatisfaction over the small amount of aid received from the United States, and any if at all from Britain, the Chungking spokesman declared, "if Chungking's soldiers haven't the necessary weapons they cannot win battles." The spokesman's plea is a futile one. For the policy of the United States and Britain of using the Chungking armies merely as "human bullets" in their war of aggression against Japan has seen no change.

II

The Imperial Forces which commenced operations on April 18 in North China from Chungmow and Pawangcheng have already taken such important strategic points as Chengchow and Hsuchang. A Unit of the Imperial Forces which began operations from the direction of Sinyang on May 1, has been advancing northward and has succeeded in meeting the Northern Unit at the strategic point of Kioshan on the Peking-Hankow Railway. Thus the entire line of this artery of China has been placed in our hands.

The significance of the latest operations of the Imperial Army in the Honan plains lies in the fact that the Chungking first war zone which has been the principal base of the enemy between North and Central China has been completely destroyed. Hereafter, the Imperial Forces will be able to extend their arms in all directions from this important central position not only against Chungking but against the American air force as well. Several army divisions which were directly under General Chiang Kai-shek have been routed. The number of dead left on the battlefield is estimated at 19,500, and the number of war prisoners, at over 4,000, while the fate of the remaining 70,000 troops, which are trapped in the Funiu Mountains, appears to be sealed.

III

North and Central China are connected by two main railways: the Tientsin-Pukow and the Peking-Hankow. The former was placed under the control of the Imperial Forces in 1938, and since then has been playing a vital role as the only trunk line connecting North and Central China. As such it has been contributing greatly to the construction of a new China.

The opening of the other trunk line, the Peking-Hankow railway, as a result of the Honan campaign, is significant in several respects. From a military standpoint it is highly important because the region along the Peking-Hankow railway and the Lunghai Railway, which had been utilized by the Chungking forces in guerilla warfare against us, has been completely isolated. At the same time because of these successful operations the air bases which Major-General Chennault had been trying to utilize in North China, in northwestern China and along the coast of Central China, have been placed in jeopardy.

From the political standpoint, the successful Honan operations are no less significant. The Honan plains constitute a vast and fertile area and lie between the New Yellow River and the Yangtze River. They are a veritable granary of agricultural products. It is because of this that Chungking's first war zone was established on these plains. Japan, having thus blasted the enemy's supply base, is offering it to the National Government of China in order to stabilize the living of the Chinese masses in the areas under its control.

The opening of the Peking-Hankow Railway will, moreover, result in closer contact between North China and Shanghai for political, economic and cultural interchange between the two regions and thus will contribute to the future prosperity of China. Although considerable damage has been inflicted on that railway, its full operation will be resumed before long.

The economic significance of the Honan operation comes from the fact that the region along the New Yellow River is now under the occupation of our forces which fact will enable the adjustment of its utility, for it has been customary for Chiang's troops to break up the banks of this great river whenever they were routed, thereby causing untold suffering to the teeming millions along the river basin. Because of this vandalistic strategy, the Yellow River has given rise to a new river which is called the New Yellow River, the amount of water in the old Yellow River having been reduced thereby. This in turn caused frequent inundations in North China. Now, since Chungmow, from which the New Yellow River starts, has been taken by the Imperial Forces, it has become possible to adjust the waters of both rivers to the great benefit of the inhabitants of North and Central China.

It has been announced by the Imperial Headquarters that our forces are continuing their operations and expanding their war results. Thus, we may anticipate that greater blows will be inflicted upon the enemy, on the one hand, and that the constructive works in China will, on the other hand, be expedited in no small degree.

Fine Arts of Japan

Spirit Seeking Harmony and Affinity With Nature Is Most Prominent National Trait

By SEIROKU NOMA
(From the Chisei)

Japan's national traits observable in its fine arts are many but the most prominent among them is the spirit which constantly seeks for harmony and affinity with nature.

This harmonious relation with nature is manifested generally in three directions. One is in the subject matter selected, second in the technique developed, and third in the rational postulate given to beauty.

Even today mountains, water, flowers and birds are the usual subjects for artists in Japan's pictorial painting, amply illustrating intimate understanding and appreciation of nature. This tendency of preferring some phase of nature as art-material may be an Oriental trait, but in Japan's there is a kinship with nature which is closer and more intimate.

In picture-scrolls, for instance, which portray a narration, historical event, or human exploits, the changing four seasons are minutely described; and also by portraying the changing colors of a mountain scenery or of a fishing village along a sea coast, limitless love of nature is represented. In the decorative paintings for interior of buildings, mountain ranges, running stream, aged pine, bamboo grove or flowers and plants, riotously resplendent in the fields, are the usual theme for artists, giving one who sits amidst these artistic creation a feeling that he is a part of nature. The tendency is not only manifested in fine arts but also is the aesthetic design of industrial products. Lacquer and yuzen, graceful, attractive and enriched by taste distinctly Japanese in essence, are examples of products which find their direct inspiration in nature.

Harmony With Nature

This harmony with nature is also revealed in the technique of Japan's artists especially in the mechanical skill applied to architecture. Just as Japan's architecture has its typical representation in an arbor for tea ceremony, its technical feature lies in giving life to the natural beauty as possessed by the materials used in the construction. Also the eaves and veranda of a Japanese building are all so designed as to thrust themselves into nature. The sliding doors, a peculiar feature of Japanese architecture, portray the impression that a house is always open to nature. Not only in architecture is this intimacy with nature expressed, but also in sculpturing, painting, and industrial products.

Japan's wood-carving made such a phenomenal technical development because of the deep-seated natural love a Japanese artist has toward wood, resulting eventually in the non-dependence on colors for effect. The natural beauty and polish in the grain of wood were given full play therein enjoying to the full the carved impressions so vividly set forth.

In Japanese painting, the entire surface of the picture is not splashed with colors. An artist skilfully uses to advantage the natural whiteness of his silk canvas. In the colors too which he uses, unlike a foreign artist who mixes several colors to produce desired effects, a Japanese artist makes a special point to give full advantage to the natural beauty each color possesses.

In recent paintings of Japan, works which make use of a mixture of colors are on the increase but they are the result of Western influence and not strictly a Japanese technique. In Japan's technique there is a method of employing mixture known as "tarashikomi" (dripping technique), but this comes from the desire of seeking for a higher harmony with nature. Among industrial arts bamboo is frequently used as material. This fact also indicates that Japan's technique is always in harmony with nature. The love for the use of dyeing in skein is also due to the fact that this method, so rich in nature's taste, fits Japan's character admirably.

Solemn and Noble

Japan's formative art is that its basic principle with regard to beauty is harmony with nature. It is often said that in Japan's conception of beauty, in its highest aspect, there is something indescribably solemn and noble. For instance, a simple wooden frame following definite lines of architecture is considered more dignified and sublime than a building of many decorations and elaborate furnishings. A superior work of art is found in paintings where only black China-ink is used rather than in those where many colors are employed. The receptacles used for offerings before a deity are natural in color embellishment of any sort being absolutely avoided. Such concept of beauty is a search after nature rather than being content with human creation.

Formative art in substance is a human handiwork, but in its final definition, in Japan, denies the sufficiency of human creation. Herein lies the special characteristic of Japan's art, requiring close study. As there is in Japan a unique principle of beauty of this nature, in its technique as well there is no likeness of it in other countries. In other words the highest technical skill in Japan's art is not in the supreme mastery of skill itself but in dependence on the power of nature to give the finishing touches to human handiwork. The exquisite nicety of a painting done in China-ink is a fitting example of this observation. China-ink which contains much water is applied to paper which quickly soaks and spreads. The artist allows for the spread to a certain degree but often it is more than anticipated. Such a painting where the unexpected may happen is a failure from the standpoint of attaining beauty purely from methodic excellence; but from the standpoint of realizing harmony with nature, i.e., arriving at the final essence of beauty, it stands supreme and possesses higher value. The dripping technique, previously mentioned, is also an example of allowing certain leeway for the unexpected to happen.

From one point of view such a method may appear like smudging a color having a distinct original beauty, but it is a technique which secures the help of nature to further improve a human product. In modern Japanese painting this method is increasingly used. In works of Japan's art many are given the impression of solitude and age. By understanding this principle of beauty one can easily appreciate why they are so. In each instance nature's help is sought to enhance further human workmanship.

Observable in China Also

This harmony with nature as seen in the technique of Japan's fine arts is not altogether an aptitude found only in this country. In China too an identical Oriental trait is observable but it is not a salient feature as in Japan. In certain periods and by certain artists the same technique has been manifested but it is not a racial trait. The skill usually ended with particular individuals. In Japan, however, it is a technique that existed in ancient times and is still progressively ever-present through the present age. It is an expression of the character of the Japanese people.

What constitutes the Japanese racial character? An answer to this question will help one to understand the special nature of Japan's fine art. It is necessary at the outset to determine the elements which make up Japan's racial character.

In racial character there are traits which the race possessed congenitally and those which were acquired through the many centuries of the nation's history. One must delve deeply into ancient history to trace the congenital traits, which are susceptible to countless modifications through the ages. Therefore, we had better get a fair estimate of the character of the Japanese race by examining the acquired traits.

Natural environment, of course, is the external element which had the greatest influence in molding the national character of our race. The affinity and harmony with nature as expressed in Japan's fine arts are due to no other reason than that Japan's natural environment was such that her people easily found affinity with it and that the Japanese race had the innate gift to find complete harmony with nature. To understand this close and mutual relationship between nature and man is to appreciate the distinctive quality of Japan's formative arts.

Natural Environment Vital

In the mutual attraction between man and nature, the natural environment must be such that it is most suitable for human existence. The natural environment of central Japan may be said to possess such qualification. Japan Proper spreads meanderingly from north to south. Japan's culture was developed in the central region, thus the natural environment of this particular region is the object of our study.

If we glance at a map and trace a line around the world horizontally from the central region of Japan, we find that the most advanced racial groups have their cultural development along this line. Central Japan is also blessed in its geographical features. Not only is the region most fitted for human habitation, but it is rich in seasonal and topographical variations. For this reason the people are instinctively made to regard nature with warm and eager concern and also to find new inspiration with each change in seasons. It is little wonder then that such close affinity is nurtured between the people of Japan and nature. The natural environment of Japan is not of the type which intimidates nor is it a type which spoils the inhabitants by its excessive fertility. It is not a nature to be feared nor one to be regarded with disdain. On the contrary it is one that constantly provides blessings and rewards to the inhabitants if they are industrious. Such a wholesome view of nature inevitably contributes toward the search after harmony and affinity with nature. In regions where mankind must subsist by battling against extreme cold or intense heat, man is constantly at war with nature. In such a conflict man must necessarily depend on his own creation in order to exist. His art too tends to place greater emphasis on human ingenuity. In Japan, however, where nature richly rewards the efforts of man, there is developed in its art a spirit which seeks the assistance of nature in further enhancing human creation of beauty. It is a spirit which not only appears in Japan's art but is also the spirit which aptly characterizes Japan's racial character. We not only rejoice in possessing innately such a spirit but regard it with great pride.

An attempt to find ideal perfection of beauty by depending solely on human ingenuity is too humanistic an attitude. It is an attitude which overestimates human ability. Human power, compared with power possessed by nature, is still limited and insignificant. Even a work of art which is given the highest honor is in a few years superseded by the work of the same person. Nature in its highest form of beauty is replete with mystical power and composition. A person of respect, though a genius of the highest degree, will always regard with reverence the wonders of nature. If this attitude toward nature be the correct mode of living, it may also be regarded as the basic sallying point of art. Fine arts which do not seek harmony and affinity with nature not only indicate an unfortunate historic development but also presage an incomplete and never-satisfying art in the future. The decline of the culture of the West, a perceptible indication today, due to its dependence on material progress, is traceable to this very factor. As a proof of this tendency we observe that modern Western pictorial painting is turning away from the fineness of purely human workmanship to non-human color scheme; but it is far different from the search after harmony with nature as in the case of Japan's art. Japan's fine arts, therefore, possessing the traditional spirit of always seeking affinity with nature and its technique being refined and polished, is worthy of the highest commendation even when critically examined from the general valuation of art as such.

Not Counter to Scientific Spirit

Due to this emphasis on the importance of affinity with nature, Japan's fine art is sometimes regarded as having an attitude inconsistent with modern scientific spirit. In fact a certain expert in the field even went so far as to declare that Japan had so advanced in her fine arts that she was late in awakening to the need of a scientific spirit. A spirit as Japan's which places a high value on intuition and individual expression is said to run counter to scientific spirit which requires precision and attaches great importance to unity and exactness of detail. There are others, on the other hand, who insist that art should in no way be hampered by the exacting rules of science. Both views, however, misrepresent the true relations between scientific spirit and aesthetic spirit.

Both scientific spirit and aesthetic spirit follow natural laws. The difference is only in the method of approach; through reason or through emotion, through machinery or through the imaginative creation of mind. A true scientist is aware that beyond human knowledge and human creation there is yet an unknown field which defies human understanding. Likewise a true artist, who in his technique seems to be free of scientific requirement, yet gives the closest attention to methodic details. Japan's fine arts especially approximate the scientific spirit which follows natural laws as it is innately a search after harmony with nature. This explanation may appear paradoxical but none the less it is an actual statement of the fact. The crux of the matter is in the interpretation one gives to science and to art.

Japan's art has a tradition of many centuries. Besides it still retains primitive simplicity. But it is not to be inferred that the present art of Japan is what it was in the very beginning. It is a long history of contact with fine arts of India and China, and of creative expressions inherently Japanese in character. Japan's art today stands the test of science. It does not ignore the latter's exact requirements. It admits the necessity of a scientific spirit, but it does not rest content with the information it provides. It launches out into nature to find further truth and beauty. If modern Japan's art does not possess this dauntless courage, holding science at arm's length, and rest content with the past subject-matter, technique, and reasoning, the glory of Japan's art is simply a thing of the past like a prodigal son who squanders the wealth bequeathed to him by his parents. In a world where science is omnipotent, fine arts may be given a cold shoulder, perhaps even neglected, but it is in such a period that a new and a better art takes permanent root.

Economic Statistics in Wartime United States

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Economic statistics in wartime United States from authoritative sources run as follows:

TABLE 1. GROSS NATIONAL PRODUCT OR EXPENDITURE
(In Billion Dollars)

	1939	1940	1941	1942	1943
Gross national product or expenditure	88.6	97.0	119.2	151.7	186.8
Gov't expenditure for goods and services	16.0	16.77	25.7	61.7	95.3
Federal government	7.9	8.8	17.8	54.3	88.5
War	1.4	2.7	12.5	49.3	83.7
Other	6.5	6.1	5.3	5.0	4.8
State and local government	8.1	7.99	7.8	7.4	6.8
Output available for private use	72.6	80.4	93.5	89.9	91.4
Private gross capital formation	10.91	14.7	19.0	8.0	1.0
Construction	3.6	4.3	5.4	2.9	1.0
Producers durable equipment and other	7.4	10.4	13.5	5.0	—0.6
Consumers goods and services	61.7	65.7	74.6	82.0	90.5
Durable goods	6.4	7.4	9.1	6.4	6.6
Non-durable goods and services	55.3	58.3	65.5	75.6	83.9

TABLE 2. UTILIZATION OF LABOR FORCE
(In Millions of Persons)

	1941	(1942)	1943	1944
	January			
Total estimated labor force	54.0	missing	59.4	60.9
Armed forces—net strength	?.0	missing	7.0	10.4
Civilian labor force	53.0	missing	52.4	50.5
Comprising unemployed	7.7	missing	1.4	0.8
Employed	45.3	48.9	58.	49.7
Agricultural employment	8.4	8.2	8.7	8.7
Non-agricultural employment	36.9	40.7	42.3	41.0
Comprising munitions and munitions materials industries	5.7	6.5	9.1	9.9
Food processing	1.2	1.3	1.3	1.5
Textile clothing and leather	2.7	2.9	2.8	2.7
Federal war agencies	0.2	0.5	1.5	1.5
Transportation fuel and utilities (50 words missing)	missing			
Construction and building materials	missing	2.6	2.3	1.4
Trade and service	missing	10.9	10.6	19.5
All other	missing	11.9	10.	19.5

TABLE 3. LABOR MARKET AREAS CLASSED ACCORDING TO LABOR SUPPLY

	No. of labor market areas classified	Areas of current acute labor shortage	Percentage of total
1943—			
January 1	272	31	11.4
February 1	269	32	11.9
March 1	271	36	13.3
April 15	275	35	12.7
May 15	278	42	15.1
June 15	291	46	15.8
August 1	335	55	16.4
September 1	340	59	17.4
October 1	349	71	20.3
November 1	351	77	21.9
December 1	358	69	19.3
1944—			
January 1	358	67	18.7

TABLE 4. AVERAGE HOURS WORKED PER WEEK IN MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES

	1940	1941	1942	1943
All manufacturing	38.1	40.6	42.9	45.0
Durable goods	39.3	42.1	45.1	46.8
Non-durable goods	37.0	38.9	40.	42.7
Selected industry groups or industries:				
Machinery except electrical	41.9	45.9	49.2	49.3
Machine tools	48.2	51.7	43.4	50.9
Transportation equipment except automobiles	41.0	44.4	47.6	47.1
Aircraft and parts excluding engines	43.2	45.3	47.0	46.3
Shipbuilding and boat building	39.8	44.4	48.0	47.4
Electrical machinery	40.4	43.7	46.2	47.0
Non-ferrous metals and products	39.9	42.4	44.6	46.
Automobiles	37.7	39.6	44.4	46.4
Iron and their products	38.6	41.6	43.6	46.4
Chemicals and allied products	39.7	40.8	42.8	45.6
Paper and allied products	39.9	42.0	42.1	45.6
Rubber products	36.9	39.5	41.6	45.9
Products (of) petroleum and coal	37.0	37.8	39.6	44.5
Food and kindred products	39.9	40.4	41.5	44.2
Lumber and timber basic products	38.6	39.4	40.8	43.2
Stone, clay and glass products	47.4	39.0	40.2	42.8
Textile mill products and other fiber manufactures	35.7	38.6	40.2	41.6
Leather and leather products	34.7	38.3	38.8	40.0
Apparel and other finished textile products	33.8	35.8	36.3	38.1

TABLE 5. RAW MATERIAL SUPPLIES
(Index 1935-39=100)

	1939	1940	1941	1942	1943
Industrial production:					
Lumber	106	115	129	130	117
Pulp	116	147	169	174	148
Cement	114	122	154	171	129
Industrial chemicals	129	153	210	286	336
Minerals total	106	117	125	129	132
Fuels	105	114	122	125	133
Coal	100	113	125	139	140
Petroleum	108	116	120	118	128
Metals, excluding gold and silver	112	145	168	190	187
Agricultural production for sale and farm consumption total	106	110	113	125	128
Crops	107	107	109	123	112
Livestock and livestock products	106	112	118	128	138

Source: Federal Reserve Board and Department of Commerce.

(To Be Continued)

SONGS FROM PRISON

By MAHATMA GANDHI

Whate'er is shame and sin in me,
Thou takest, Lord, upon thyself,
And bearest it for me:

To thee, to thee alone,
I fly for shelter and for aid;

I claim thy promise,
That thou wilt save,
Save to the utmost sinners like
myself:

Bring safe to port, my God,
This broken, battered ship, my
life:
This is thy chiefest task, [illegible]

This thy most ardent will,

To conquer sin in those who call
to thee,
To lift their grisly burden:
Ah then, be merciful,
Be present with me, Lord, and
bless, and save.

Fruits of Wisdom

It is not true that equality is a law of nature. Nature has no equality. Its sovereign law is subordination and dependence.—Vauvenargues.

* * *

The most effective coquetry is innocence.—Lamartine.